

Virginia Board of Education

Student Advisory Committee

Minutes: December 15, 2004

Students in Attendance:

Ashley Beaudin, James Wood High School; Patricia Castillo, Denbigh High School; Liz Chassey, Prince Edward Middle School; Jonte Craighead, The Gereau Center; Ginny Fuller, Monacan High School; Richard Ingebresten, Battlefield Middle School; Lori Lippman, Albert Hill Middle School; Katie Logan, Luray High School; Katelyn Mendoza, Monticello High School; Molly Rubin, Kempsville High School; Jessica Schatz, Courtland High School; Thomas Webb, Graham High School

Department of Education Staff in Attendance:

Anne Wescott, Michelle Parker, Melissa Velazquez

Virginia Board of Education Members in Attendance:

Isis Castro, Eleanor Saslaw

Mrs. Castro and Mrs. Saslaw welcomed the 12 new members of the Student Advisory Committee (SAC) and paired the students up to introduce each other to the group. The SAC is composed of eight high school students representing each superintendent's region, and four middle school students, selected at large.

Mrs. Parker and Ms. Velazquez reviewed the SAC notebook, a copy of which was given to each student, and other administrative matters with the committee members. Information included the role and mission of the committee and expectations for the work of the committee.

The SAC committee members were divided into three groups of four students. Each group was directed to identify two topics or issues that they felt the Board of Education may want to address. Each group was informed that after the group identified two issues those issues would be presented to the entire SAC for consideration. The SAC would then pick one issue from each group as the policy areas the SAC would research and present to the Board of Education for action.

The groups chose the following issues:

Group 1 chose Testing and Safety/Discipline. Group 2 chose Education Success Across the State and Curriculum Diversity with a Focus in the Arts. Group 3 chose Student Psychological Health/Violence and Need Based Funding.

Representatives of each group presented the groups' two issues with explanations to the full committee. The entire committee determined the three top issues from the six presented. The issues chosen were Testing, Curriculum Diversity with a Focus in the Arts and Student Psychological Health/Violence.

The group that identified the issue will research it and make recommendations to the Board of Education. Each group identified the work that needed to be done and made assignments for the February meeting. Groups will work on and research their issues, and communicate to each other via e-mail prior to the February meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for February 22-23, 2005.